

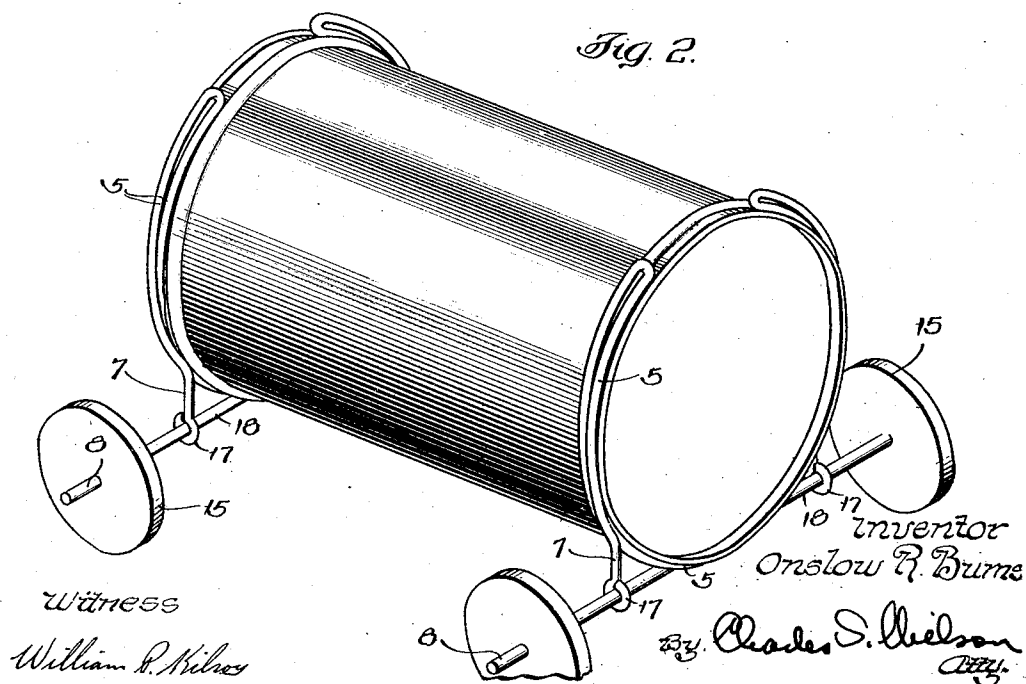
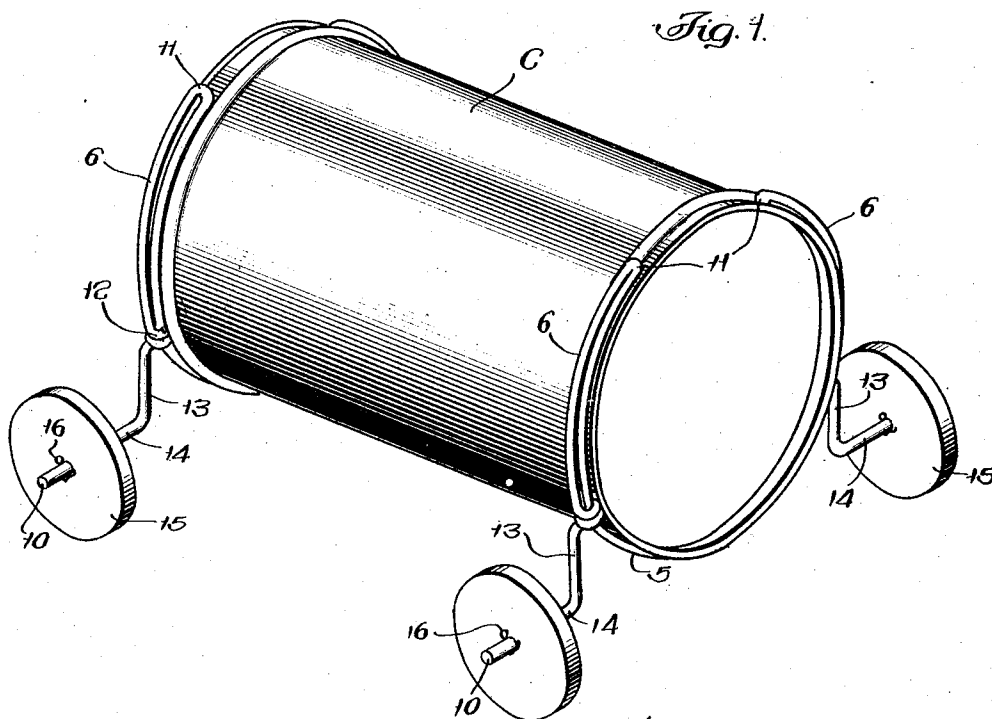
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TOY VEHICLE FRAME

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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TOY VEHICLE FRAME

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This invention relates to and has for its object the provision of a frame structure designed for use in conjunction with an article, such as a container, whereby the article may be converted into a toy vehicle.

With the above and other objects in view, as will be apparent, this invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts, all as hereinafter more fully described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 illustrates a complete toy vehicle embodying a container of the household variety, equipped with a pair of the demountable frames forming the subject matter of this invention;

Fig. 2 is a similar view illustrating a somewhat modified type of demountable frame.

The demountable frame forming the subject of this invention comprises a cradle of wire or other suitable material partially embracing a body or container, and having free ends rebent upon corresponding or adjacent portions of the cradle to reinforce said cradle, and terminating in stub axles or in mountings for suitable wheel-receiving means.

In the drawings, 10 represents a length of wire or similar material adapted to be bent into a variety of suitable forms to conform generally to the contour of the container with which it coacts. This invention contemplates that the material used in the construction of the demountable frame be such as to furnish sufficient resiliency and flexibility to provide a substantially firm attachment or snug connection with a container.

The construction of a demountable frame forming the subject matter of this invention involves a series of loops and bends of various sizes according to the size and contour of the container to be operated upon. For example, and without limiting the application of this invention to a single style of container, further reference to the invention herein will relate to the cylindrical type container illustrated in the drawings.

In order to form the demountable frame illustrated in Fig. 1, a length of wire is bent to form an incomplete circle or arc, thereby creating a cradle 5. This cradle 5, which

coincides with the contour of the corresponding surface of the container C to be converted into a toy vehicle, and is of sufficient size to embrace the major portion of the circumference of the cylindrical container, thereby providing resilient self-gripping means. The cradle 5 constitutes the basic structure of the demountable frame. The free ends 6 of the wire or other material forming the cradle 5 are rebent and folded back up and against the arms of the cradle 5 and extend to points adjoining the base of said cradle. The rebent portions 6 of the wire arc, at predetermined points, looped or wrapped about the wire forming the sides of the cradle 5 with free portions 13 thereof occupying substantially vertical planes. At their lower ends these portions 13 of the wire are again bent outwardly at approximately right angles to provide stub axles 14 for supporting and mounting the wheels 15.

The well known means of offsetting or other mutilation of the wire as at 16, may be employed to prevent the wheel 15 from being displaced from the axle 14.

It is apparent from the foregoing that a single section of wire is manipulated and bent to create a cradle 5 for the engagement of a container C, said cradle conforming to the general contour of said container and at the same time the free ends of the wire so used are positioned in a horizontal plane to act as axles for the wheels 15. Thus by engaging the container C in one or more of the cradles 5 and placing the wheels 15 on the stub axles 14, the container may be converted into a toy vehicle.

In Fig. 2 is illustrated a modified form of the cradle constructed generally in the same manner as is the cradle heretofore described and shown in Fig. 1 and being in two pieces instead of one. The two-piece construction, as distinguished from the one-piece assembly heretofore described, is obtained by forming the cradle 5 as above described, and rebending the free ends 6 likewise above described. These free ends 6 are not wrapped about the wire forming the cradle 5 but terminate in substantially vertical extensions 7, which in turn are each provided with a loop 17 at its

ends. These loops 17 are alined one with the other in the plane of the cradles. The axle member 8 being an element independent of the cradle 5 embracing the container C, is mounted in the loops 17 formed at the terminals of the extension 7. As in the form of the invention shown in Fig. 1, the wheels 15 are mounted on the axle member.

What is claimed is:

1. The combination with a body, means for converting said body into a vehicle comprising a main spring member adapted to embrace a portion of said body and maintain engagement therewith solely through the spring action of said member, auxiliary members formed integrally therewith, and wheel supporting means coacting with said auxiliary members.

2. A device for converting a body into a vehicle comprising a frame having upwardly disposed arms, means for reinforcing said arms formed integrally therewith, terminating in wheel supporting means.

3. A device for converting a body into a vehicle comprising a frame having a central portion formed into upwardly disposed arms, remote end portions terminating in wheel supporting means, and substantially vertical portions intermediate said central and end portions.

4. The combination with a body and means for converting the same into a vehicle, comprising a frame having a central portion adapted to embrace said body, each end portion of said member being folded back upon the adjacent or corresponding central portion, and wheel supporting means coacting therewith.

5. A device for converting a body into a vehicle comprising a length of wire having a portion, centrally of its ends, bent to form a cradle, each of its free ends being folded or doubled back upon the adjacent or corresponding central portion, and terminating in a horizontal portion to provide an axle for supporting a wheel.

6. A device for converting a body into a vehicle comprising a length of wire having a central portion partially embracing said body in compressed relation, each end portion of said wire being folded or doubled back upon the adjacent or corresponding central portion and terminating in a horizontal portion adapted to receive a wheel.

7. In combination with a body, a length of wire adapted to embrace a portion of said body in compressed relation, reinforcing means formed integrally therewith terminating in integral wheel receiving means.

8. A device for converting a body into a vehicle comprising resilient body-engaging arms, means for reinforcing said arms formed integrally therewith, terminating in wheel supporting means.

9. A device for converting a body into a

vehicle comprising resilient body-engaging arms, each having a section thereof folded back upon itself and terminating in a horizontal portion to provide an axle for supporting a wheel.

10. A device for converting a body into a vehicle comprising resilient body-engaging arms, each having reinforcing means formed integrally therewith and having a section thereof looped about itself, and terminating in a horizontal portion to provide an axle for supporting a wheel.

11. A device for converting a body into a vehicle comprising resilient body-engaging arms, each having a section thereof bent back upon and looped about said arm and a horizontal section at the terminal of each bent back portion to provide an axle for supporting a wheel.

12. A device for converting a body into a vehicle comprising resilient body-engaging arms, each having a section thereof bent back upon itself and terminating in a loop, and wheel supporting means coacting therewith.

13. A removable device for converting a container into a vehicle comprising a spring cradle constituting a pair of spaced arms formed to correspond to the container and adapted to engage and clamp the container therebetween, said cradle including means for removably mounting wheels thereon.

14. A removable device for converting a container into a vehicle comprising a spring cradle constituting a pair of spaced arms formed to correspond to the container and adapted to engage and clamp the container therebetween, and means coacting with said spring cradle for securing wheels thereto.

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